

RAUFFENBURG



1913

SENT

LESSON NO. 2

Identifying God-sent Preachers

Theme: Examining the erroneous claims made by the Iglesia ni Cristo (Church of Christ) that Felix Y. Manalo was sent to preach.

Introduction

The Iglesia ni Cristo believes that "*authorized preachers are God-sent*", they claim Felix Y. Manalo was a God-sent preacher who proved his authority by presenting "credentials" that he was God-sent from July 27, 1914. Note: Felix Y. Manalo started preaching in the year 1913.

1. Q. When did Felix Y. Manalo begin preaching?
A. Felix Y. Manalo began preaching to employees of the Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific Co. (A.G. & P.) in the year 1913 *God's Message*, May 2011, p.8
2. Q. How many were baptized after Felix Y. Manalo began preaching?
A. In 1913...After several nights of preaching, he was able to convert 14 believers whom he baptized as pioneer members *God's Message*, July 1997, p.10
3. Q. What did Felix Y. Manalo claim?
A. He claimed he was God-sent or God's Messenger *God's Message*, May 2017, p.28
4. Q. How did Felix Y. Manalo claim he was God-sent?
A. He presented as his "credentials" the prophecies in the Bible - about God's servant "from the ends of the earth" (Isa.41:9-10) *God's Message*, May 2017, p.3
5. Q. When was this so-called "ends of the earth"?
A. The time "ends of the earth" therefore, began on July 27, 1914 *GM*, May 2016, p.31
6. Q. How did Felix Y. Manalo present "credentials" that he was God-sent (God's servant) from July 27, 1914 to employees of the Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific Co. in 1913?
A. It was impossible for Felix Y. Manalo to claim he was God-sent in 1913, when his "credentials" and authority-to-preach originate from him being sent 8-9 months into the future on July 27, 1914. This creates a 'chicken-and-egg' argument
7. Q. What is the 'chicken-and-egg' argument?
A. A situation in which it is impossible to know which of two things happened first or caused the other to happen (*i.e. Felix Y. Manalo began preaching in 1913, but in order to prove his authority-to-preach he provided 'credentials' that he was sent on July 27, 1914 and vice versa*)

8. Q. How does this cause a 'chicken-and-egg' argument ?
A. It begs the question, "which came first, *the preaching or being sent to preach*"?
9. Q. Which came first, the preaching or being sent to preach?
A. This is impossible to answer because neither claim could exist without the other
10. Q. Why are claims about the life, ministry and mission of Felix Y. Manalo so convoluted?
A. Because the claims are built upon an anachronism, a chronological inconsistency or something that is out of place in terms of time or chronology
11. Q. In 1913: Did Felix Y. Manalo prove that he was God-sent by presenting "credentials" that he was God's servant (sent) from 8-9 months into the future on July 27, 1914 or the so-called ends of the earth?
A. The answer is no (*See related answers from question No. 5 and No. 6*)
12. Q. Was Felix Y. Manalo God-sent?
A. The answer is no

Conclusion

The Iglesia ni Cristo's claim that Felix Y. Manalo, did not simply claim he was God-sent but instead presented as his "credentials" the prophecies in the Bible - about God's servant "from the ends of the earth" (*God's Message*, May 2017, p.3) is devoid of logic and common sense when Felix Y. Manalo began his preaching as early as the year 1913.

It was impossible for Felix Y. Manalo to claim he was authorized to preach or God-sent from (*8-9 months into the future on July 27, 1914*) to the first listeners of his preaching from the Atlantic, Gulf and Pacific Co. (A.G. & P.) in Punta Sta. Ana, Manila in 1913. Therefore, we can conclude the erroneous claim made by the Iglesia ni Cristo (Church of Christ) that Felix Y. Manalo was a God-sent (authorized) preacher is false.

BY:
SEBASTIAN RAUFFENBURG